

AGENDA ITEM: Special Services Program - Literacy

ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AT THIS MEETING:

1. Authorization to Allocate 2001/02 California Library Literacy Service Funds.
2. Authorization to Allocate 2001/02 Families For Literacy Funds.

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD: I move that the Library of California Board authorize its Chief Executive Officer to allocate, as soon as the state budget makes them available, the 2001/02 California Library Literacy Service Act funds to an estimated 5 new library jurisdictions, 16 existing 2nd through 5th year programs and matching funds paid at an estimated 16% to local programs in their 6th and subsequent years of library literacy service.

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD: I move that the Library of California Board authorize its Chief Executive Officer to allocate, as soon as the state budget makes them available, the 2001/02 California Library Services Act Families for Literacy funds to an estimated 80 library jurisdictions in accordance with the provisions of Education Code Section 18735 to local participants based upon the criteria set forth in the Families for Literacy application materials and prior performance in the Program, where applicable.

1. Authorization to Allocate 2001/02 CLC Funds.

BACKGROUND:

The Preliminary 2001/02 CLSA Local Assistance Budget as adopted by the State Board last August contains an allocation of \$4.090 million for the support of California Library Literacy Service (CLLS) as defined in Statute (Chapter 1095, Statutes of 1992). This amount, which is the amount in the governor's proposed budget, is sufficient to support all 16 existing 2nd through 5th year CLLS programs at the levels defined in statute. The current allocation is also sufficient to permit the initiation of CLLS services in an estimated 5 additional library jurisdictions, and to permit State to local matching of financial resources at an estimated \$1 to \$6.25 ratio for local programs in their 6th and subsequent years of operation.

The Governor's proposed budget for 2001/02, as introduced, does not include an

augmentation as requested through a Budget Change Proposed submitted in accordance with the Board's action at its August 2000 meeting.

Because of the timing of the State budget process, the final amount of the 2001/02 CLLS appropriation will not be known until late June at the earliest. However, existing CLLS programs will begin to incur expenses July 1, 2001. For that reason staff annually seeks Board authorization early in the year for the Chief Executive Officer to award funds to participants immediately following the completion of the State budget process.

2. Authorization to Allocate 2001/02 Families for Literacy Funds.

BACKGROUND:

The Preliminary 2001/02 CLSA Local Assistance Budget as adopted by the State Board last August contains an allocation of \$1,384,000 for the support of Families for Literacy programs as defined in Statute (Chapter 1359, Statutes of 1987).

The Governor's proposed budget for 2001/02, as introduced, includes an augmentation of \$500,000 requested through a Budget Change Proposal submitted in accordance with the Board's action at its August 2000 meeting. If this augmentation remains in the budget bill the total allocation for the Families for Literacy program for fiscal year 2001/02 will be \$1,884,000.

Application forms and instructions for the 2001/02 Families for Literacy Program will be mailed to all eligible applicants in March. As with the CLLS it is desirable to award funds to successful applicants immediately following the completion of the State budget process. The Families for Literacy Program is a competitive grant program. Early indications are that between 77-85 public libraries plan to apply for FFL funds for 2001/02.

GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:

CURRENT STATUS: CLSA Special Services Program activities are organized in two major components: 1) activities undertaken to implement State Board priorities for emphasizing services to the underserved in other CLSA Programs (e.g., System Reference); and, 2) services supported with funds allocated to the CLSA Special Services Program, currently the library-centered adult literacy services known as the California Library Literacy Service (CLLS), and the Families for Literacy Program (FFL). These programs together are known as the California Literacy Campaign (CLC).

In accordance with State Board action at its January 2000 meeting, the Chief Executive Officer has awarded a total of \$2,536,971 in State matching funds to 86 jurisdictions for programs in their sixth and subsequent year of the CLLS. A list of the jurisdictions, amounts of local public and private funds certified, and the amounts of State matching funds for which they received is provided as Exhibit A. A total of \$13,977,899 in local

public and private funds was raised by these libraries. This resulted in a State to local dollar match for the 2000/01 fiscal year of \$1 of State funds to \$5.51 of local funds.

Exhibit B displays the sources of local public and private funds as certified by the applicants.

Included as Exhibit C is the funding history of the California Library Literacy Service, by program. Exhibit D contains the funding history for the Families for Literacy programs.

CLLS Planning

Thirty-six libraries that have never received CLLS funds responded to a request for planning information for the CLC (see Exhibit E). They responded as follows:

Does the library have an adult literacy program?

Yes: 6	No: 30	Total: 36
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Would you be interested in attending an information forum on applying for CLSA literacy funds?

Yes: 9	No: 27	Total: 36
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When would you consider applying for CLSA literacy funds?

2001/02: 6	2002/03: 6	After 2002/03: 5
Not interested: 19	Total: 36	

Two information forums will be held for libraries whose intent is to apply for CLLS funds in the 2001/02 fiscal year or a later date. The workshops will be held in the North on February 20, 2001 and in the South on February 22, 2001.

New CLC Program Training: Training for programs new to the CLC and for new CLC staff in existing programs was provided by CSL literacy staff. Approximately 20 people attended the December 5 training held in Sacramento and 15 people attended the December 7 training held in Rancho Cucamonga.

Prop 10: CSL staff attended the Prop 10 State Commission meeting in Redding on November 16 and presented a report on the FFL augmentation/new program funding and the LLABS (Library Literacy And Books Services) project. A packet of information was prepared and distributed to each Commissioner. The report was well received and the Commissioners are very enthusiastic about their partnership with Families For Literacy and our local public libraries. They had many questions and comments and indicated that they were interested in continuing the partnership, possibly with additional funding. Copies of the packets prepared for this meeting were mailed to each

LoC Board member in early February.

Starbucks Partnership: Our partnership with Starbucks and their ABC (All Books for Children) drive last year netted over 15,000 books for FFL programs. The drive was not as successful last year due to a number of changes in Starbucks' regional staffing during the critical months leading up to the drive itself. Although the free shipping to library recipients provided by UPS was a tremendous help, the books often went to programs outside of the jurisdiction in which they were collected. Starbucks acknowledged the difficulties that their repeated changes in staff caused and stated that they are committed to improving this process next year. We hope to once again be designated as the recipients of the drive in 2001.

RELATED ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE:

1. 2001/02 plans for implementing the adult and family literacy programs.
2. Results of the first year of data collection for the evaluation and strategic planning of CLC will be available in March 2001. This study will be completed in two parts. A second contract to analyze and report on the data and make recommendations will be entered into in March 2001 for completion in October 2001. Implications of the results regarding future program design decisions within the Library of California Special Services components will be included.

Relevant Committee: Literacy
Staff Liaison: Carole Talan